REMARKS

The Office Action of April 18, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

The present Amendment cancels claim 5 in response to the rejection on page 2 of the Office Action. It also cancels claim 15.

The Amendment also revises claim 1 to recite that "the CPU is switched to the debugging mode if responding via the second bridge to the first data requests fails, and the first BIOS code is read or reprogrammed by the debugging system for debugging." The Amendment revises independent claim 11 in the similar manner. These revisions are supported (for example) by Figure 1 of the application's drawings, and by the passages at page 8, lines 20-23 and page 9, lines 2-8. The above-noted passage at lines 27-30 on page 8 states that even a ROM 16 or the BIOS code in it or the south bridge 28 fails, "it can be skipped by switching the CPU 10 to the debugging mode and the computer system is initialized by the debugging system." The above-noted passage at lines 2-8 on page 9 states:

> If the south bridge 28 and the ROM 16 function normally but the BIOS code in the ROM 16 fails, the BIOS may be read by the computer system 4 through the debugging card for debugging. If the south bridge 28 and ROM 16 function normally but the BIOS code in the ROM 16 fails, the ROM may be reprogrammed through the computer system 4.

Finally, the Amendment revises all of the claims where appropriate to improve their grammar and to otherwise improve their form in US claim-drafting practice.

The Office Action rejects independent claims 1 and 11 (along with various dependent claims) for anticipation by US patent 6,003,130 to Anderson. For the at least reasons

discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 11 are patentable over this reference.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites (with emphasis added):

1. A method of initializing a computer system equipped with a debugging system, wherein the computer system has a CPU, local, peripheral and expansion buses, first and second bridges, and a ROM coupled to the expansion bus and storing a first BIOS code, and wherein the debugging system is coupled to the peripheral bus, the method comprising the steps of:

   operating the CPU in a normal mode wherein first data requests directed to the ROM are routed to the local bus by the CPU;

   operating the CPU in a debugging mode wherein second data requests directed to the debugging system are routed to the local bus by the CPU;

   transferring one of the data requests from the local bus to the peripheral bus via the first bridge;

   responding via the second bridge to the first data requests on the peripheral bus so that the first BIOS code stored in the ROM is loaded in the CPU; and

   responding via the debugging system to the second data requests on the peripheral bus so that a second BIOS code stored in the debugging system is loaded in the CPU,

   wherein the CPU is switched to the debugging mode if responding via the second bridge to the first data requests fails, and the first BIOS code is read or reprogrammed by the debugging system for debugging.
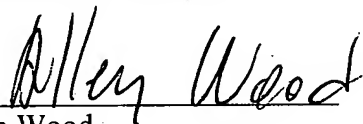
Independent claim 11 now concludes with a similar "wherein" clause.

It is respectfully submitted that the Anderson reference neither discloses nor suggests switching a CPU to a debugging mode if a first data request that is directed to a ROM fails, whereupon a first BIOS code is read or reprogrammed by a debugging system, in accordance with claim 1. Similarly, Anderson does not teach or suggest that a CPU is switched to a debugging mode if a second bridge fails to respond to a first data request with a first BIOS code, and a debugging system reads or reprograms the first BIOS code for debugging, in accordance with independent claim 11.

The remaining claims depend from claims 1 or 11 and recite additional limitations to further define the inventions, so they are patentable along with their independent claims and need not be further discussed.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Wood
Registration No. 28,134
RABIN & BERDO, P.C.
Customer No. 23995
(202) 326-0222
(202) 408-0924 (facsimile)

AW:ss